



27 January 2016

Secretariat
Social Service Committee
Select Committee Services
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON 6160

Re: Residential Tenancies Amendment Bill

Tena koe Mr Ngaro

Regional Public Health would like to formally register our agreement and support for the submission made by the Auckland Regional Public Health Service (ARPHS) on the Residential Tenancies Amendment Bill.

Regional Public Health delivers population and personal health services in the greater Wellington region. Our geographical area of service delivery spans Hutt Valley, Capital & Coast and Wairarapa DHBs. We aim to improve the health of communities; in particular we focus on achieving equitable health outcomes for high needs groups such as Māori, Pacific peoples, child and youth, low income families and other vulnerable groups.

We deliver a healthy housing programme as part of the Ministry of Health's Rheumatic Fever Prevention Programme. The housing programme aims to reduce crowding and assist occupants with making their homes warmer (e.g. access to insulation assistance and curtains) and drier (education around ventilation and how to reduce and treat mould). A number of our assessments involve private rentals with few levers that can be used to support landlords to create healthier environments for our most vulnerable populations.

The improvements suggested by ARPHS to the Residential Tenancies Amendment Bill will help improve the health outcomes of many of the populations we work with.

We do not wish to speak at the forthcoming hearings.

The contact point for this letter of support is:

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Kind Regards

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